



NEWS RELEASE

Office of the
United States Attorney
for the
District of Nebraska
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February 11, 2009

United States Attorney Joe Stecher and the Omaha Police Department announce the following information for the attention of the media:

Event Triggering this Release:

Taft Burtton was sentenced today to 120 months incarceration for possession with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of crack cocaine by the Honorable Laurie Smith Camp, United States District Judge. He was also placed on five years of supervised release following his release from incarceration and ordered to pay a \$100 special assessment. The defendant was one of three people involved in a traffic stop in the North Omaha area. When evidence was developed during that stop that drugs were present in defendant's residence near 30th and Newport streets in Omaha, officers obtained a search warrant for that residence and seized approximately 100 grams of crack cocaine. The Court remanded Mr. Burtton into custody to begin serving the ten year sentence.

Name of Defendant: Taft Burtton

AKA:

Age: 36

City of residence: Omaha

Crime(s) Charged and Potential Penalty (A CHARGE is merely an accusation and every defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty): possession with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of crack cocaine, 10 years to life incarceration, \$4,000,000 fine, or both such fine and imprisonment, at least 5 years supervised release and \$100 special assessment.
Specific Location of Alleged Crime:

Location of Arrest:

Alleged Dollar Loss/Type and Quantity of Drug: approximately 100 grams of crack cocaine

Others Charged in Same Scheme: Terri Burton, defendant's wife. Charges against her were dismissed.

Relevant Dates:

Date of Alleged Crime: December 2, 2007

Federal Arrest Date:

Date Complaint Issued: N/A

Indictment Returned Date: January 16, 2008

Initial Appearance Date: January 23, 2008

Plea or Trial and Date(s): Pled October 8, 2008

Sentencing Date: February 11, 2009

Next Court Hearing Type and Date: None

Assigned Magistrate Judge: Thomas D. Thalken

Held without Bond, or Released from Custody: Pretrial release

In Continuous Custody Since:

Assigned District Court Judge: Laurie Smith Camp

Initials of Assigned AUSA/Preparer of THIS Release: RCS